

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 3-5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention relates to an applicator for an electrosurgical instrument, alternatively for argon-plasma coagulation as well as for cutting, also argon-supported, ~~according to the preamble of patent claim 1.~~

Please delete the paragraph at page 3, lines 17-19, in its entirety.

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 13-20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to an embodiment of the invention ~~not illustrated in the drawings~~ the cutting electrode 4 is retained by a fastening support pipe 20 in the interior of the gas and high frequency current supply pipe 3. Said fastening support pipe, whereof the inner end is connected to the inside of the gas and high frequency current supply pipe e.g. by spot-welding, may, by bending, be adjusted in such a position that the cutting electrode adopts a substantially coaxial form relative to the ceramic insert 8, with the consequence that the escape of gas takes place in a steady and undisturbed manner.